

FIRE MOBILIZATION NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON



State Emergency Operations Center Camp Murray, Washington

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Mark Clemens, Washington Emergency Management Division, News Release No. 2 September 6, 2003 3:45 p.m.

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Update: Firefighters enroute to Needle Creek Fire

Firefighters from Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan Counties are enroute to assist local firefighters working to contain the Needle Creek Fire, which is approximately eight miles east of Mazama.

A total of 46 firefighters and 15 engines/tenders are enroute and will be arriving at various times during the day. These firefighters and apparatus will complement the 350 firefighters and 57 engines/tenders already at the scene.

The Washington State Fire Services Mobilization Plan was authorized at 11:55 a.m. Saturday morning, and implemented by the Fire Protection Bureau with support from the state's Emergency Management Division at the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray.

Creating a defensible space around your home is a must for residents living in a potential wild land fire area. The following are the 10 steps to defensible space:

- Thin tree and brush cover.
- Dispose of slash and debris left from thinning.
- Remove dead limbs, leaves and other litter.
- Stack firewood away from home.
- Maintain irrigated green belt around the home.
- Mow dry grasses and weeds.
- Prune branches to 10 feet above the ground.
- Trim branches.
- Clean roof and gutters.
- Reduce density of surrounding forest.